



Community Profile

Overview

The City of Alexandria is located in Northern Virginia bordered by the District of Columbia (Potomac River), Arlington, and Fairfax counties. Once within the original boundary stones that demarked the area of the Nation's Capital, Alexandria is a part of the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. With a population of approximately 160,000 Alexandria is the sixth largest city in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Unique and historic, Alexandria is a place that is experiencing substantial redevelopment appeal and business growth opportunities as a result of a high market demand for urban living in a quality environment. About one-quarter of the City's 15.47 square miles has been designated as a national or local historic district. Thousands of the buildings utilized as homes, businesses and museums are considered monuments to the past.

The City is an active participant in regional agencies such as the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa), the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC), and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA).



Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2018
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Alexandria Waterfront
Photo credit: Evan Michio

Community Profile



Location



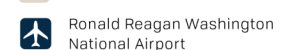
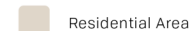
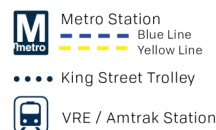
ALEXANDRIA NEIGHBORHOODS



KEY LANDMARKS

1. Torpedo Factory Art Center
2. Historic King Street
3. George Washington Masonic National Memorial
4. Del Ray/Mount Vernon Avenue Retail District
5. The Birchmere Music Hall

6. United States Patent and Trademark Office
7. National Science Foundation
8. T.C. Williams High School
9. Port City Brewing Company
10. Inova Alexandria Hospital
11. Future Landmark Town Center

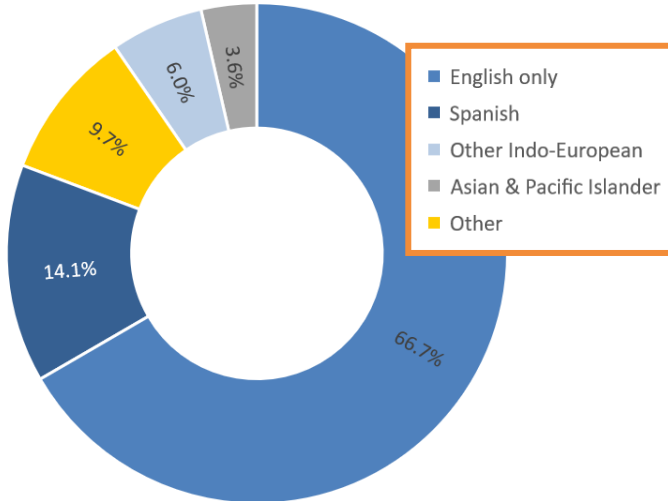




Community Profile

Demographics

Languages Spoken at Home



Alexandrians are **well-educated**



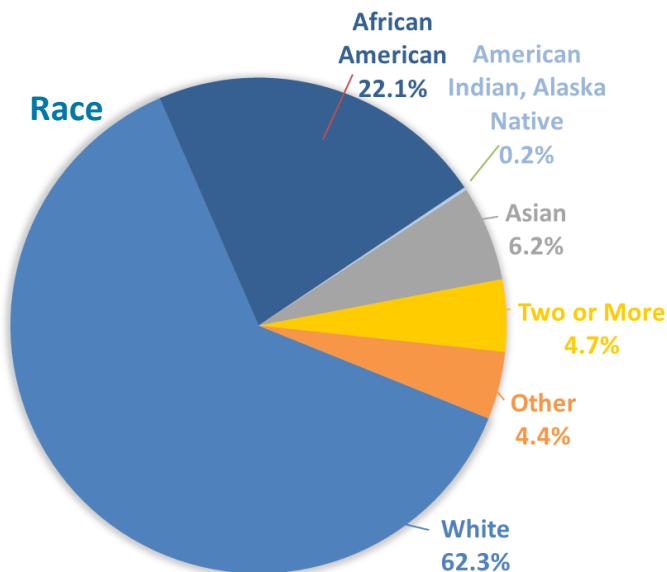
91.4% high school or higher graduates



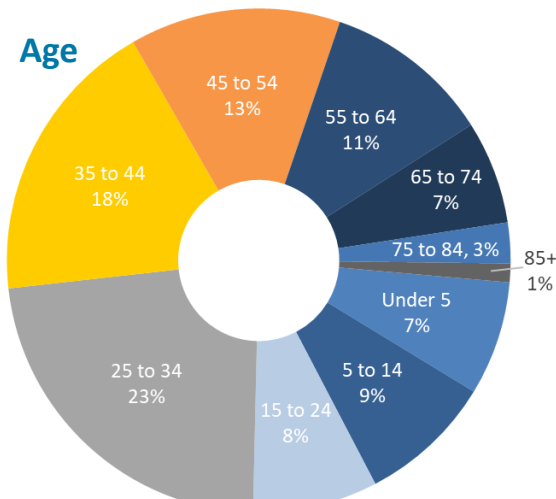
62.1% bachelor's degree or higher

10,204 veterans call Alexandria home

Race



Age



\$119,485
Median Family Income

2.85
Average Family Size

2.2
Average Household Size

\$93,370
Median Household Income



Community Profile

Governance

Alexandria is an independent city with no county affiliation, and derives its governing authority from a Charter granted by the Virginia General Assembly. Virginia is a Dillon Rule state, allowing local governments only the authority expressly granted to them by the Virginia Constitution or by the Virginia General Assembly in the City Charter or in general law.

City Council is the governing body, which formulates policies for the administration of the City. The Mayor is chosen on a separate ballot and presides over sessions of the Council.

1922

Council-Manager
Form of Government
Adopted

The Alexandria City Council operates under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, which prohibits closed sessions of the Council

except for specific matters regarding personnel, pending litigation and land acquisition.

Accordingly, nearly all sessions of the City Council are open to the public, where citizens actively participate in public hearing discussions.

Civic engagement is highly valued by residents and the City

government. The City has 74 internal boards and commissions composed of citizen appointments made by Council. Appointees also serve on regional boards and commissions all which can advise City Council on major issues.

The City Council appoints the City Manager who serves as the City's Chief Executive Officer responsible for implementing the policies established by the City Council.

2015 -
Present

Mark B. Jinks

City
ManagerEmily A. Baker
Debra R. Collins
Laura B. TriggsDeputy
City
Managers

ALEXANDRIA CITY GOVERNMENT



\$947.4 million
FY 2020 All Funds Operating Budget



\$1.62 billion
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
FY2020 - FY2029



2,629
Full-Time Employees

Source: City of Alexandria Fiscal Year 2020 Budget

Community Profile



ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL January 1, 2019– December 31, 2021

From Left to Right:

Amy B. Jackson, John Taylor Chapman,
Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (seated),
Redella S. "Del" Pepper (center),
Mayor Justin M. Wilson (seated),
Mohamed E. Seifeldein, and Canek Aguirre.



Elected At-Large to 3-Year Terms

Photo credit: Maddox Photography

History

- Alexandria Black History Museum
- Alexandria Archaeology Museum
- Fort Ward Museum & Historic Park
- Friendship Firehouse Museum
- The Lyceum (Alexandria's History Museum)
- Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum
- Gadsby's Tavern Museum

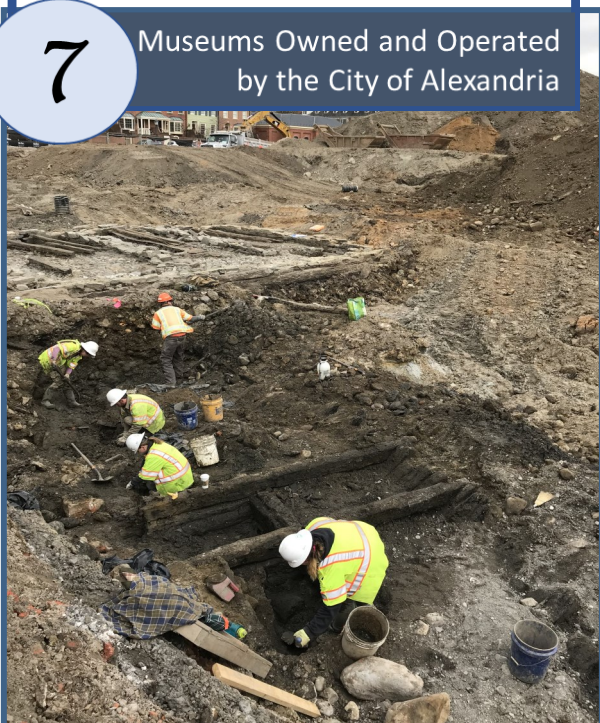
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Museums Owned and Operated
by the City of Alexandria

During its long history, Alexandria was a tobacco trading post, one of the ten busiest ports in America, a part of the District of Columbia, home to both the largest slave-trading firm in the country and a large free-black community, a Civil War supply center for Union troops, and a street-car suburb for Federal workers. Alexandria was also the hometown of George Washington, Robert E. Lee, Jim Morrison and Mama Cass. Notable Alexandria landmarks include Murry-Dick-Fawcett House, Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial, Freedom House Museum, the African American Heritage Park, Carlyle House, the Lee-Fendall House, and the Torpedo Factory. The City's weekly Farmer's Market has been meeting continuously on Market Square since the town's founding and is considered the nation's oldest farmer's market.

209,763

Visitors to historic sites museums & events in 2017



City of Alexandria FY 2020 Approved Budget

Above: Gadsby's Tavern, Left: Archeological dig near the Potomac River
Photos courtesy of Office of Historic Alexandria



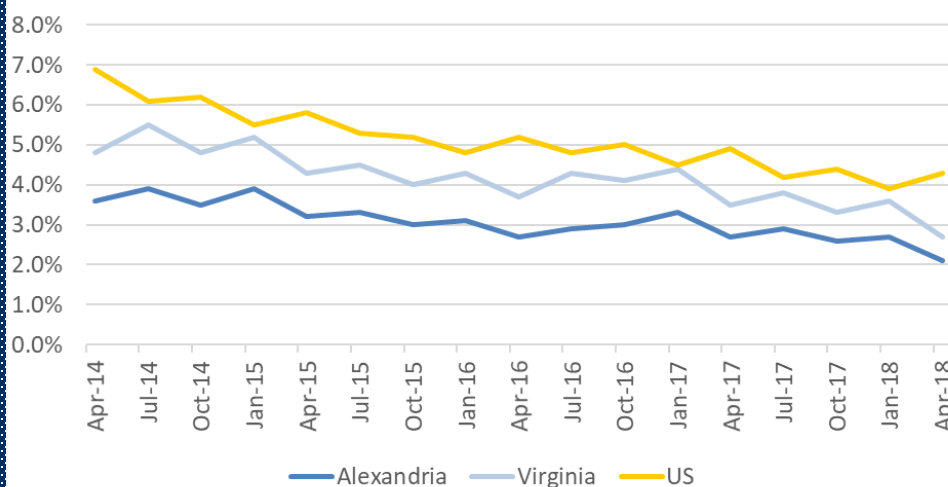
Community Profile

Economy

In

2018, the City of Alexandria entered into an agreement with Virginia Tech to create a new Innovation Campus within the City developing approximately 1 million square feet of academic, research and development, retail, and public-private partnership space.

Unemployment Rate



95,344
Total Employment

66,864
Private
Employment

\$1,455
Average Weekly
Wages

101,214
Labor Force

23,825
Government
Employment

2.2%
Unemployment
Rate





Community Profile

Tourism

Alexandria boasts a tourism industry that hosts over 3.5 million visitors annually. Destination visitors, those traveling from 50 miles or greater to Alexandria, generated \$27.4 million in revenue for the City via local tax revenue in 2017. All visitors spent \$826 million in 2018. For FY 2018, the average hotel occupancy rate was 72.5 percent. For the same time period, the average daily rate for hotel rooms in the City was \$153. Tourism helps support Alexandria's quality of life and amenities for residents, including its extraordinary restaurants, museums, cultural attractions, and much more.

Non-Resident City Tax Revenue



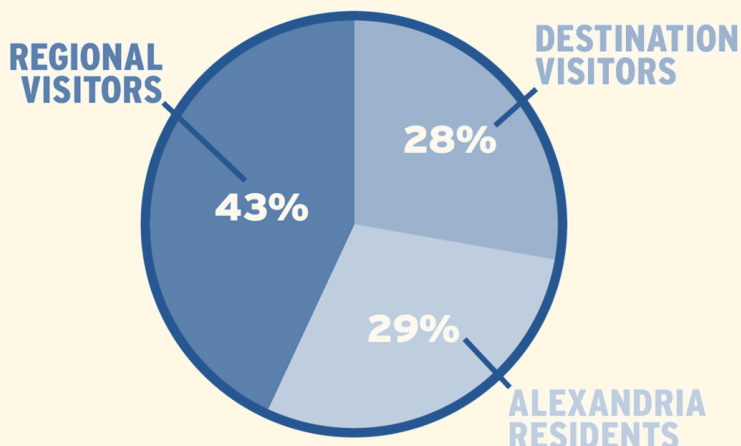
Saving the
average household
\$616
PER YEAR



EDUCATING
2,646
Alexandria
public school
students

80% Of Businesses in Old Town & Del Ray Neighborhoods Are **INDEPENDENTLY OWNED**

Consumption Taxes



In addition to its historic sites, Alexandria includes a variety of attractions. One of the metropolitan area's largest concentrations of international restaurants can be found in Old Town. The Torpedo Factory Art Center, located on the City's waterfront, provides an opportunity for the public to meet professional artists. The City's Del Ray/Rosemont areas offer beautiful tree-lined streets, eclectic shops, and various annual community events.

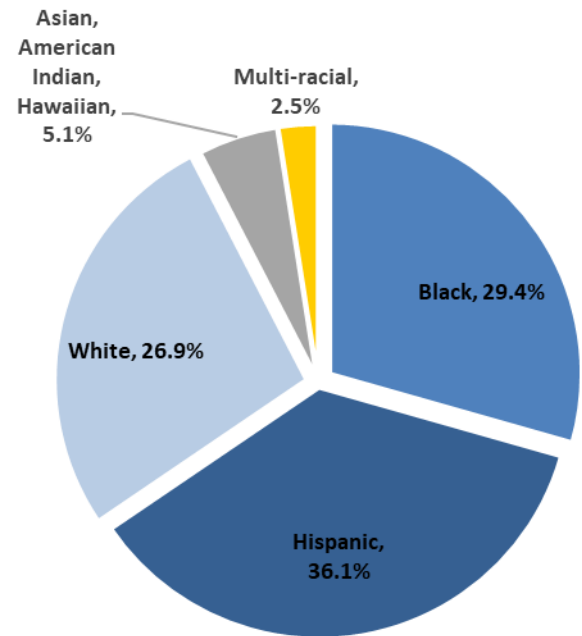


Community Profile

Education

ACPS Students	
Eligible for free or reduced price meals	61.5%
Receiving talented and gifted services	7.2%
Students requiring English Language Learners (ELL) services	30.9%
Students receiving special education services	10.6%

The Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) is one of the most diverse school systems in the country with students coming from 114 different countries and speaking 119 different languages. ACPS employs 1,415 teachers and student enrollment was 15,737 in 2018. The school system is comprised of 18 schools: twelve elementary schools, one pre kindergarten, two K-8 schools, two middle schools, and one high school with two campuses. T.C. Williams High School offers 27 Advanced Placement (AP) courses and in 2017, 2,021 AP exams were administered. In June 2018, the high school saw 793 students graduate.



ACPS Student Demographics

Source: ACPS

Alexandria is also home to four post-secondary institution locations: George Washington University Alexandria Graduate Education Center, Virginia Tech Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center, Northern Virginia Community College, and Strayer University Alexandria Campus.

Libraries

OVER 1,382,324 LIBRARY VISITORS and WEB USERS

The Alexandria library system consists of one central library, the Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library (designed by world renowned architect, Michael Graves and the local architectural firm of Pierce Goodwin Alexander & Linville), and three branch libraries, the Kate Waller Barrett Branch, the Ellen Coolidge Branch and the James M. Duncan Branch. The Kate Waller Barrett Branch is the location of what many believe to be the first organized sit-in of the Civil Rights Movement on August 21, 1939. The sit-in was organized by Samuel Wilbert Tucker, who now has a local elementary school named after him, and involved five young African-American men who one by one entered the whites-only library, picked out books, and quietly began reading until they were arrested. This event adds to the City's rich history and speaks to the progressive nature of its citizens.

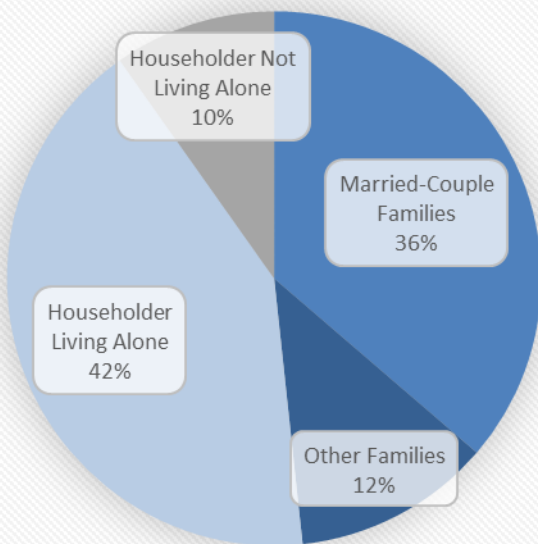
Source: Alexandria Libraries 2018 Annual Report



Community Profile

Housing

Types of Households



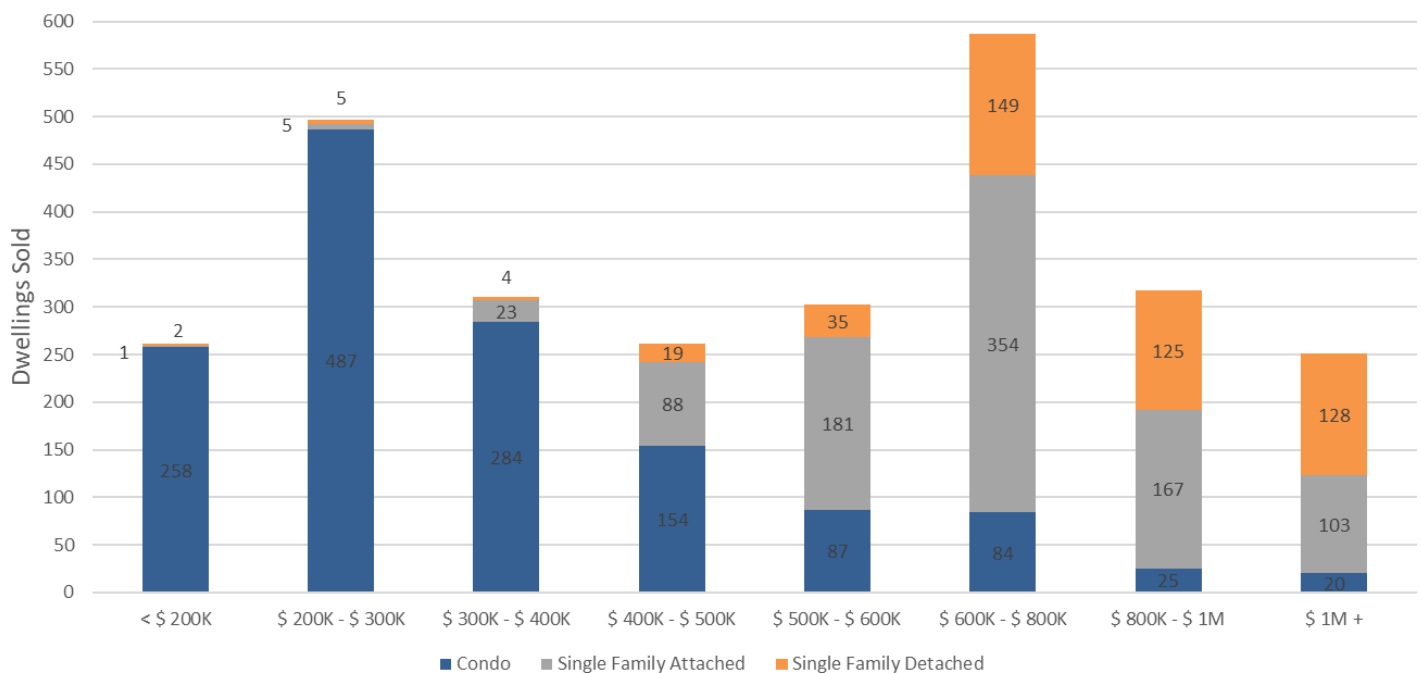
Alexandria's population has seen consistent growth for more than a decade. The 2017 American Community Survey estimated there to be 75,489 housing units, (up 15% from 2000) 91 percent of which are occupied. Of those occupied units, 43.1 percent are owner-occupied while the remaining 56.9 percent are rented. An estimated 48.3 percent of households are family households while 51.7 percent are non-family households (households either containing only the householder or additional persons who are not relatives of the householder).

Within Alexandria, both public and private owners of rental housing offer assisted housing affordable to low and moderate income residents of the City through participation in state, local or federal programs. These units are available to income eligible households and some programs give priority or restrict admission to specific populations such as elderly or

Some programs and services administered by the Office of Housing include: the Affordable Homeownership Units Set-Aside Program, which markets a limited number of

affordable resale-restricted units in new developments; Homeownership Assistance Loans, which offers no-interest, deferred payment loans for down payment and closing cost assistance toward the purchase of City-assisted properties for eligible applicants; and the Affordable Rental Units Set-Aside Program, which sets asides affordable rental opportunities within market-rate apartment properties.

Alexandria Home Sales in 2018





Community Profile

Community and Human Services

The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) provides essential safety net services that measurably improve or maintain the quality of life for Alexandrians. Additionally, the behavioral health programs provide compassionate and effective services that support self-determination, recovery, and resiliency for residents affected by mental illness, intellectual disabilities, and substance use disorders. More than 590 DCHS employees provide services through three direct service centers.

The Center for Adult Services provides programs and services in Aging, Adult Protective Services, Clinical & Emergency Behavioral Health Services, and Community & Residential Support Services for persons with mental illnesses, intellectual disabilities and substance use disorders. The Center for Children and Families provides programs and services for Behavioral Health, Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, Child Welfare and Child Protective Services, Early Childhood, and Youth Development. The Center for Economic Support provides programs and services for Public Benefits, Homelessness Prevention, and Employment and Training.



Recreation and Parks

The Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Department (RPCA) supports the well-being of Alexandria's residents by ensuring access to a variety of quality recreation, park and cultural experiences. The City has over 900 acres of publicly accessible open space (this includes both public and private land that is open for public use) 566 acres of it is City owned park land, and approximately 20,000 trees throughout the City.



Photo credit: Evan Michio

Parks and Recreation	
Playground Areas	41
Swimming Pools	4
Hard Surface Courts (Basketball, Futsal, and Tennis)	45
Athletic Fields	49
Dog Parks	18
Miles of Trails	20
Community Recreation Centers	7
Nature Center	1
Adult Arts/Activity Center	1

Community Profile

Public Safety



Alexandria maintains a modern, highly trained police department, with a current authorized strength of 312 sworn officers and nearly 115 civilian employees. The Alexandria Police Department has been internationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 1986 and was reaccredited in 1991, 1996, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2016. CALEA accreditation is a rigorous and difficult process that, if achieved, affirms the professional status of law enforcement agencies worldwide.

The Alexandria Sheriff's Office is accredited by the American Correctional Association (ACA) since 1989 and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) since 1991.



The Alexandria Fire Department employs approximately 258 uniformed personnel plus 27 civilian personnel. A network of ten stations protects the City. Among the department's specialized teams are the Northern Virginia Regional Hazardous Materials Team, Technical Rescue, Marine Operations and the Special Operations Team. Alexandria also has a volunteer organization, the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD). The AVFD has served the citizens of the City for more than two hundred years, with President George Washington as one of its earliest members. AVFD members provide assistance in the areas of firefighting, emergency medical services, communications, canteen and administration.



The Department of Emergency Communications (DEC) ensures the effective delivery of routine and emergency calls to the City of Alexandria public safety departments. The department's state-of-the-art headquarters was completed in 2011 and a new computer aided dispatch (CAD) system was deployed in 2015. The department also recently implemented text-to-911 functionality in 2016.



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Transportation



Photo credit: Evan Michio

The City of Alexandria has long over 49 miles of on-street and off-street bike lanes, sharrows, and trails. Using a bike quickly, safely, and enjoyably to get around has never been easier. The City's expansion of the Capital Bikeshare program and installation and designation of new bike lanes and routes are just a few of the initiatives that make the City of Alexandria a nationally recognized Bike Friendly Community with a silver rating from The League of American Bicyclists.

Alexandria's Complete Streets Policy of 2011 was reenacted in 2014, recognizing that the users of our transportation system include pedestrians, bicyclists, riders and drivers of public transportation, in addition to motor vehicles. In the spring of 2017, city staff embarked on the Vision Zero process to build an action plan with the goal of eliminating all traffic related deaths and serious injuries.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) operates Metrorail, which has 118 miles of rail lines (6.1 miles in Alexandria) and 91 stations throughout Virginia, DC and Maryland. Four stations along the yellow and blue lines are located in the City: Braddock Road, King Street, Eisenhower Avenue, and Van Dorn Street. WMATA also operates Metrobus with bus stops and routes throughout the City and the newly opened Metroway uses dedicated lanes along Route 1 corridor between Pentagon City and Braddock Road Metrorail stations.

The Alexandria Transit Company's (ATC) DASH bus system provides bus service within the City of Alexandria and connects with other local bus systems, Metrorail, and Virginia Railway Express (VRE). DASH fleet consists of eco-friendly Hybrid Electric low floor buses and Clean Diesel. In all, 85 buses on 11 routes served 3.9 million passengers in 2018. DASH operates the King Street Trolley, which is free to all riders, between the King Street Metrorail Station and Waterfront Park.



Photo credit: Evan Michio



Community Profile

Awards and Accolades 2016-Present

- The Coolest Suburbs in America—[Apartment Therapy](#) (2019)
- America's Greenest Cities (Alexandria #4)—[CubeSmart](#) (2019)
- Most Dog-Friendly Vacation Destinations in the U.S.—[Expedia](#) (2019)
- Top Trending Destinations of 2018 (Alexandria #3)—[Expedia](#) (2018)
- Safest Cities in America (Alexandria #2)—[SmartAsset](#) (2018)
- #1 Best Value U.S. Travel Destination (Alexandria #1)—[MONEY](#) (2018)
- Best Small Cities in the U.S. (Alexandria #4)—[Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards](#) (2018)
- The South's Prettiest Cities (Alexandria #14)—[Southern Living](#) (2018)
- Best Bike Cities in America (Alexandria #25)—[Bicycling](#) (2018)
- Safest Cities in America (Alexandria #4)—[SmartAsset](#) (2017)
- 10 Most Successful Cities in Virginia (Alexandria #9)—[Zippia](#) (2017)
- "All-Star" in Virginia for LGBTQ Equality (Alexandria #2)—[Human Rights Campaign Municipality Equality Index](#) (2017)
- 20 Most Unique Cities to Visit in Your 20s (Alexandria #7)—[CarRentals.com](#) (2017)
- Happiest Cities in the United States (Alexandria #21)—[National Geographic Explorer](#) (2017)
- 2017 Best Cities for Millennials in America (Alexandria #4)—[Niche](#) (2017)
- 2017's Most Diverse Cities in America (Alexandria #21)—[WalletHub](#)
- North America's Coolest Downtowns (Old Town Alexandria #5)—Expedia Viewfinder (2017)
- America's Most Attractive Cities (Alexandria #11)—[Travel + Leisure](#) (2017)
- 25 Best Cities for Entrepreneurs (Alexandria #1)—[Entrepreneur](#) (2017)
- Top 100 Best Places to Live (Alexandria #32)—[Livability](#) (2017)
- Top Cities for Millennials—Millennial Personal Finance (2017)
- The 15 Most Romantic Places in Virginia (Alexandria #1)—[Best Of Virginia](#) (2017)



Community Profile

Awards and Accolades (cont.)

- Top 20 Most Romantic U.S. Cities (Alexandria #3)–[Amazon.com](#) (2017)
- Best Counties to Live In (Alexandria #10)–[24/7 Wall St.](#) (2017)
- Must-Visit U.S. Hotspots for 2017 (Alexandria #5)–[Smarter Travel](#) (2017)
- America's Top Holiday Towns–[USA Today](#) (2016)
- Best Christmas Towns Around Washington, D.C. (Alexandria #1)–[Only in Your State](#)(2016)
- Nation's Top Digital Cities–[The Digital Cities Survey](#) (2016)
- 50 Best Bike Cities of 2016–[Bicycling Magazine](#)
- Best Midsize Cities for Public Transit–Redfin (2016)
- America's Most Attractive Cities (Alexandria #11)–[Travel + Leisure](#) (2016)
- Safest Big Cities in Virginia (Alexandria #4)–[Value Penguin](#) (2016)
- 25 Healthiest Cities in America–[Niche](#) (2016)
- 25 Best Cities for Millennials in America (Alexandria #3)–[Niche](#) (2016)
- Best Cities for Entrepreneurs–[Livability](#) (2016)
- Best Cities to Live in America–[Niche](#) (2016)
- The DC Suburbs, Ranked (Alexandria #1)–[Thrillist](#) (2016)
- America's Best Small Art Festivals" (King Street Art Festival #2)–[Fodor Travel](#) (2016)
- Most Educated Cities in America–ValuePenguin (2016)
- #1 Best Downtown in America–[Livability](#) (2016)
- #1 Most Romantic City in the U.S."–[Amazon](#) (2016)
- D.C. Area's Most Romantic Streets (King Street)–[Curbed](#) (2016)
- 20 Most Charming Small Cities in the U.S.–[RentLingo](#) (2016)
- Top 100 Best Places to Live –[Livability \(2016\)](#)